



Adventurebug Worldwide Ltd

Bespoke adventure travel & events since 2000

REAT Tourism License AT/MA/00022 Company Registration B93050763
Apto. Correos 1031, 29680 Estepona, Malaga, SPAIN TEL (34) 635 817 819

Quintessential Croatia

Hiking Tour / 10 nights



Croatia is a central European country with a long coastline on the Adriatic Sea. Encompassing more than a thousand islands, it is also crossed by the Dinaric Alps. Today described as the ideal combination between travels to Italy and Greece, Croatia has bounced back tremendously from a history of strife to become one of the most sought-after European travel destinations of this era.

We welcome you aboard our discovery tour of Croatia and the opportunity to experience it's wonderful nature, inspiring architecture, delightful cuisine and wine and to gain insights of the

unique history of this Adriatic nation. Join Adventurebug on this 11-day discovery of Europe's hidden gem – you will be pleasantly surprised! This tour is rated *comfortable* and optional hiking opportunities are built in. Travel by private bus, tour boats and excursions on foot to allow us to experience the best Croatia has to offer.

TOUR HIGHLIGHTS & WHAT TO EXPECT

Beautiful Adriatic Coastline / Verdant National Parks with forests, mountains and waterfalls / Day trip to Mostar (Bosnia) / Interesting hikes in superb nature / Tasty Mediterranean diet and age-old wine production / Abundant architectural delights / Insightful museums and galleries / Friendly, welcoming culture / A pleasant Mediterranean climate perfect for spring tours.



- 10 nights comfortable accommodation in excellent tourist-class hotels in central locations
- Most dinners and meals included (as per itinerary) *Dinners include wine or drink of your choice.
- Private transportation in comfortable air-conditioned bus transport
- Tourist boat journeys and some local ferries around selected islands in the Aegean Sea
- All tipping is included in your tour (except for housekeeping and any baggage handling services)
- Well planned excursions in both urban centers, natural park landscapes and on beautiful islands
- Entrance fees and tickets arranged for all scheduled historic sites & local attractions
- Local English-speaking guides where applicable
- A wide range of experiences and hikes that are suitable to all interest levels





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ITINERARY



DAY 1 - DUBROVNIK – HIGHLIGHTS TOUR Dubrovnik conjures all sorts of images due to its exotic seaside location and fabulous architecture. For *Game of Thrones* fans, it's the quintessential kingdom and a living film set. For history buffs it served as a crossroads for major events. After meeting your group and guide at our hotel this morning, our day is spent exploring this delightful city and getting to hear the stories and legends that make Dubrovnik so appealing. An additional hiking option is built into today's tour from our visit to Srd Mountain.

Night: Dubrovnik / Hotel Lero Dubrovnik <https://hotel-lero.hr/> **Meals:** Welcome Dinner (in Hotel)



DAY 2 - ISLAND BOAT TOUR OF THE ELAPHITES A visit to southern Croatia is not complete without a boat excursion to the *Elaphites Islands* near Dubrovnik. Our journey takes us around wonderful landscapes of the Adriatic Sea and opportunities to disembark and hike the rural landscapes including a swim in the clear waters before we enjoy a tasty lunch with wine on route!

Night: Dubrovnik / Same Hotel **Meals:** Breakfast & Lunch



DAY 3 - DUBROVNIK'S LOKRUM ISLAND

Today we'll take a short ferry over to *Lokrum Island*, only 15 minutes from Dubrovnik where we can hike the lush discovery path to the Benedictine Monastery, swim in a miniature Dead Sea and explore the botanical gardens with the curious local inhabitants, the peacocks! This half day excursion offers us more insight of Dubrovnik's prestigious history and natural beauty – plus the views back to the city walls and the mainland countryside are worth the trip alone! This afternoon you have free time to further explore medieval Dubrovnik, including some final shopping or dining opportunities.

Night: Dubrovnik / Same Hotel **Meals:** Breakfast & Picnic Lunch



DAY 4 - MOSTAR (BOSNIA) & THE MAKARSKA RIVIERA

Today we'll journey from Dubrovnik to *Mostar* – a historic Bosnian city located inland from the Dalmatian coast. After touring Mostar we drive to the coastal city of *Split* following the pretty *Makarska Riviera* on route. To the east towers the rugged Mt. Biokovo and a nature reserve home to golden eagles and Balkan Chamois. Split is an enchanting harbour with a beautiful promenade and beaches and we have 3 nights here. **Night:** Split / Hotel Luxe 4 star (*or similar)

www.HotelLuxeSplit.com **Meals:** Breakfast & Dinner



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DAY 5 - SPLIT & GUIDED TOUR DAY

Split is simply delightful. Here exists the most imposing of Roman ruins, *Diocletian's Palace* - and it's a site to behold! With our local guide we'll be led on a magical journey through the Palace and the rest of the city's most intriguing features – offering us insight into Split's tremendous history and alluring architecture, art and cuisine. An afternoon guided walk/hike will also be provided for those seeking some further active explorations. **Night:** Split / Same Hotel **Meals:** Breakfast only



DAY 6 - SPLIT - DAY VISIT TO HVAR ISLAND

Today we take to the sea again by local ferry to explore one of Croatia's most famous islands, Hvar. Here we'll hike through island flora and visit some quiet rural village areas as well as the charming port where a cold drink or gelato can be enjoyed before cruising back to Split! The outgoing ferry is 1 hour and the return boat approximately 2 hours (due to operations scheduling) **Night:** Split / Same Hotel / **Meals:** Breakfast and Picnic Lunch



DAY 7 - ZADAR – SIBENEK & KRKA NATIONAL PARK

The journey to Zadar offers much to see as we explore more of the Dalmatian Coast and an inland National Park. We first visit medieval *Sibenek* and its 1431 Cathedral of St. Jacob amongst other attractions before stopping in *Krka National Park* to hike the pathways between mill houses and stunning waterfalls and river courses. Drive to Zadar for our 2 night stay. **Night:** Zadar Hotel Kolovare / <http://www.hotel-kolovare.com/en/> **Meals:** Breakfast, Picnic Lunch and Dinner



DAY 8 - ZADAR BOAT EXCURSION TO KORNATI ISLANDS NATIONAL PARK

Today we enjoy viewing Croatia's largest archipelago from the comfort of our tour boat where lunch is also served. We can also disembark to explore some one of the island's unique natural features and have a swim. The trip is very gentle with some on shore time. *Kornati Islands National Park* was established in 1980 and remains one of Croatia's most protected island nature reserves. After the tour we'll walk the UNESCO quarter of Zadar and witness the unique Sea Orchestra attraction. **Night:** Zadar / Same Hotel **Meals:** Breakfast & Lunch



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DAY 9 - PLIVICE LAKES NATIONAL PARK & ZAGREB

Today we transfer north to visit the most impressive of all natural sites in Croatia, the *Plivice Lakes National Park* (1 hr 45 minute travel time / 83 miles). Here we'll tour by boat and consider a variety of hiking options surrounded by incredible natural beauty. After the visit we carry on to the nation's capital Zagreb (2 hours travel time / 84 miles), where we have our two final nights. **Night:** Hotel Dubrovnik 4 Star <https://hotel-dubrovnik.hr/> (*or similar) **Meals:** Breakfast & Picnic Lunch



DAY 10 - ZAGREB GUIDED TOUR DAY

This morning we visit Croatia's thriving capital city with a local English speaking guide. Our morning walking tour visits the city's beautiful medieval quarter, marketplace and some unique Austro-Hungarian architecture. In the afternoon you can find those last-minute souvenirs or your guide will lead an extended hike up into the city hills to capture scenic vistas and offer a last bit of exercise before the journey home! Tonight we'll have a farewell celebration dinner. **Night:** Zagreb / Same Hotel **Meals:** Breakfast & Farewell Dinner

DAY 11 - ZAGREB / TOUR DEPARTURE

After breakfast you can make your way to the Zagreb International Airport. Transfers are not included, and your guide will assist with arrangements and bookings. There is no accommodation or guided activities today. **Meals:** Breakfast only

YOUR TRIP – WHAT TO KNOW

This trip is best defined as a discovery tour that also has hiking options nearly every day. We aim to see the authentic parts of the country via the use of our private bus, ferry boats and of course with local guides in some areas. Adventure Bug have designed the day visits to be well paced and hopefully suit everyone's interests. Remember, this is your holiday, and you have the option to choose your level of physical output.

Transport

Private Air-Conditioned Coach for all overland visits and transfers & boat (local tour class ferries)

Non-included Meals

Some meals are not included on our tour (please refer to itinerary). We feel you will benefit from getting out and discovering the local cuisine. So, when a meal is not included, it's a great opportunity to try something new. Your guide will offer tips on where to get the best meal, or you might decide to dine out as a group and experience the fun together.



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Tipping

Tips for all aspects of this excursion are included in your trip price. These include: all meals in the itinerary, driver trips, local guide tips. Please note that housekeeping and baggage handling services at hotels are not included. Tips during meals that are not provided are in line with most of Europe – that is leaving a 10% gratuity as the norm on meals – but not normally for café / bar services.

What's not Included on the tour:

- *International flights (to/from Croatia including any internal flight connections)*
- *Departure taxes (not currently applicable)*
- *Visas (not applicable for USA, European or Commonwealth passport holders)*
- *Travel insurance (compulsory to have personal travel and medical insurance)*
- *Meals (where not listed as included in the itinerary)*
- *Beverages at included meals*
- *Optional additional tours or activities during free time (ie. Other excursions, museums, etc.)*

Optional Extras

During free time and our day off, there are optional activities to enhance your travel experience in Croatia. You will need to cover any additional costs yourself. All activities are subject to availability and it may not be possible to do all the activities promoted at each destination. The decision to partake in any activity not provided in our itinerary or led by Adventurebug, is at your own discretion and risk. All external activities should be registered with the Department of Tourism in Croatia.

Vaccinations

Vaccinations are normally not required for Croatia.

Visas and Permits

Croatia - A visa is **not** required for Croatia for a stay of 3 months or less for Americans, Commonwealth and European passport holders. Other nationalities should check their visa requirements with your consulate.

Insurance

You are required to have travel & health insurance before taking part on this tour. Standards of medical cover in Croatia vary and you will benefit by having a *private plan* – rather than relying on the state health service. We strongly recommend cancellation insurance as well as coverage for health and medical issues. With many global disruptions in travel – delays and even cancellations are becoming more regular. A good insurance policy for travel should cover you for these unexpected expenses from disruptions.

Customs and Culture

Croatia is slowly modernizing and aiming to catch up with Western Europe – albeit slowly... In some ways Croatia is a typical European nation and at the same time, very backwards compared to what you are used to – especially in



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reference to customer service, street noise, traffic and simply the slow way many Croatians go about their daily life! Not so long-ago Croatia was a Communist country... don't come to Croatia expecting the same levels of service and mannerisms typical of your homeland or other destinations - you may be disappointed. Instead, come with an open mind and take everything in stride – you wouldn't be travelling to foreign lands if you expected everything to be the same as home! Please acknowledge that mass tourism (*with the exception of cruise ships in Dubrovnik*), is not a regular occurrence, thankfully. Croatians struggle with our fast pace and high demands for customer service... Bear in mind that Croatia has suffered immensely during the Baltic Wars in the 1990's and many families and friends were divided as a result. Be sensitive about this when making enquiries and/or photographing sites and people. English is not as widely spoken in Croatia as in other European and Mediterranean holiday destinations but for the most part, we can use English nearly everywhere. Croatian language is complicated but try to obtain a few basic words and phrases. Here is a list to get you started!

Hello. (informal)

Bok (*bohk*).

How are you?

Kako ste? (*formal*) (*KAH-koh steh?*)

How are you?

Kako si? (*informal*) (*KAH-koh see?*)

Fine, thank you.

Dobro sam, hvala. (*DOH-broh sahm, HVAH-lah*)

Please.

Molim. (*MOH-leem*)

Thank you.

Hvala. (*HVAH-lah*)

Thank you very much

Hvala lijepa. (*HVAh-lah LYEH-pah*)

You're welcome.

Nema na čemu. (*NEH-mah na CHEH-moo*) or Molim. (*MO-leem*)

Yes.

Da. (*da*)

No.

Ne. (*ne*)

Good morning.

Dobro jutro. (*DOH-broh YOO-troh*)

Good afternoon.

Dobar dan. (*DOH-bahr dahn*)

Good evening.

Dobra večer. (*DOH-brah VEH-cher*)

Good night.

Laku noć. (*LAH-koo notch*)

Good night (to sleep)

Laku noć. (*LAH-koo nohch*)

Excuse me. (getting attention)

Oprostite. (*oh-PROHS-tee-teh*)

Excuse me. (begging pardon)

Pardon. (*par-DON*)

I'm sorry. ("expressing condolence")

Žao mi je. (*zhaw mee yeh*)

Goodbye

Doviđenja (*doh-vee-JEH-nyah*) or Zbogom (*ZBOH-gohm*).

Goodbye (informal)

Doviđenja (*doh-vee-JEH-nyah*) or Bok. (*bok*)

What is your name?

Kako se zovete? (*formal*) (*KAH-koh seh ZOH-veh-teh*)

Special Dietary Needs and Medicines

Vegetarian diets can generally be accommodated to with some creativity and open-mindedness, but don't be surprised if fish is offered to you as a vegetarian! Special diets such as gluten free (celiac) and lactose intolerance can be a challenge and we recommended you bring supplements from home just in case. Medicines and reading glasses / contacts subscriptions we strongly recommend you bring from home as resources can be scarce or just not available in some destinations. Decent sun creams, sun glasses and general cosmetics are best brought from home as well.

Dubrovnik / Zagreb arrival and departure Information

Remember that the tour starts and finishes in two separate locations. Dubrovnik is your ARRIVAL airport (DBV) and Zagreb is your DEPARTURE airport (ZAG). Please plan this accordingly when booking your flights. If you arrive earlier than the group (or intend to prolong your stay later), you can make your own way easily to/from the airport. A licensed, local taxi is the best recommendation for Croatia however the local bus services are safe, efficient and economical.



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These services run during the main hours of the business day and perhaps early or late arrivals may not be have these bus links. Adventurebug can also pre-book group transfers should many of you be arriving or departing at the same time.

FURTHER READING & MEDIA LINKS

Lonely Planet Guide to Croatia

Rick Steve's Croatia

On The Edge of Reason – *Miroslav Krleža*

Chasing a Croatian Girl : A Survivors Tale – *Cody Brown*

The Culture of Lies - *Dubravka Ugrešić*

Café Europa - *Slavenka Drakulić*

RICK STEVES ADRIATIC DELIGHTS: [HTTPS://WWW.YOUTUBE.COM/WATCH?V=GvXzXOAEUF4](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GvXzXOAEUF4)

PLUG IN SOCKETS (CROATIA)

Electrical sockets (outlets) in **Croatia** are one of the two European standard electrical **socket** types: The "Type C" Europlug and the "Type F" Schuko. If your appliance's plug doesn't match the shape of these sockets, you will need a travel plug adapter in order to plug in. (This is the common plug/socket all over Europe now)

TYPE F PLUG



TYPE C EURO PLUG



NOTE – both plugs are the same for the wall

EMERGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION

In the case of a genuine crisis or emergency, your local operator, Adventurebug Worldwide can be reached as follows:

OFFICE + 34 952 894 308

Matt Butler (Guide) + 34 635 817 819 (This number is reachable by WHATS APP messenger as well).

European (911) 112

Calling Code for Croatia +385 (*for calling Croatia from overseas / then add the local number)

INTERNET CONNECTION IS CROATIA IS WIDELY AVAILABLE AND FUNCTIONAL. WIFI CONNECTION HOWEVER (LIKE EVERYWHERE) CAN BE POOR AT TIMES DUE TO THE INCREASING AMOUNT OF PUBLIC USERS POSTING PHOTOS TO SOCIAL MEDIA – ESPECIALLY FROM HOTEL SERVERS. (hotels and cafes can't deal with the heavy demands of users)



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HOTEL LISTINGS (* subject to some variation)

Nights 1-4 DUBROVNIK

Hotel Lero, 4 Star

Iva Vojnovića 14, 20000 Dubrovnik, Croatia

T +385 20 341 435

W <https://hotel-lero.hr/>

Nights 5-7 SPLIT

Hotel 4 Star, Luxe Split (*to be confirmed)

K. Zvonimira 6, 21000 Split, Croatia

T + 385 21 314 444 F + 385 21 314 445 M + 385 99 430 3333

W www.HotelLuxeSplit.com

Nights 8-9 ZADAR

Hotel 4 star, Kolovare

Bože Peričića 14 23 000 Zadar Croatia

T +385 23 211 017

W <http://www.hotel-kolovare.com/en/>

Nights 10-11 ZAGREB

Hotel 4 Star, Dubrovnik (*subject to final confirmation due to a convention on same date)

Ljudevita Gaja 1 (GPS - Praška 5), Zagreb, 10 000

T +385 (0)1 4863 505 F +385 (0)1 4863 507 M +385 (0)91 4873 502

W <https://hotel-dubrovnik.hr/>